



REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH
TERMS OF REFERENCE

**International Consultancy for the Preparation of a
Multi-hazard Public Health Emergency Preparedness and
Response Plan**

1. Framework

The World Bank Group (WB) serves 54 client countries in the Africa Region. Clients range from middle-income countries to small and fragile states that are IDA beneficiaries.

The WB launched the regional Health Security Program (HeSP), aiming at responding to various public health emergencies, which will contribute to the resilience of countries in the West African region, particularly Cabo Verde.

The support received by the country, in particular by the management of the COVID-19 epidemic in Cabo Verde has been crucial in further strengthening preparedness and response activities under the main project, and the fact that small island states such as Cabo Verde are the most vulnerable makes this support essential.

Health emergencies and disasters, whatever their origin, cause major economic losses and have a significant impact on the performance of health systems. The World Health Organization has identified strengthening the capacity of Member States to prepare for and respond to health emergencies and disasters as a priority. Implementing **multi-hazard preparedness** and response requires broad

approaches that bring together health authorities at different levels, national and international organizations, the private sector, civil society organizations, health research institutions, universities, think tanks and community members.

The adoption of a **multi-hazard public health emergency preparedness** and response plan aims to: ensure effective coordination of multisectoral response to the public health emergencies; provide clear guidance on the timely notification, detection, rapid risk assessment and classification of all health events taking into account all existing hazards; and finally, address the involvement of relevant non-traditional stakeholders beyond the health sector.

2. Current situation

Cabo Verde is a signatory to the International Health Regulations (IHR, 2005), the document that provides the legal framework for preparing for and responding to public health emergencies. In accordance with the IHR 2005 guidelines, the country conducted the Joint External Evaluation of the IHR 2005 Core Capacities in 2019, which identified priority areas for action to improve preparedness and response to public health events.

From the conclusions of the Joint External Assessment, the country recognized the need to have a robust **multi-hazard emergency, preparedness and response plan to prevent outbreaks, detect health emergencies** early, and **respond** rapidly to public health emergencies to minimize/mitigate the social and economic impact and build resilience to all hazards, ensure timely and effective assistance to affected people in a coordinated manner, and protect people, property, livelihoods and the environment.

In addition, Cabo Verde's vulnerability in several areas, including: the increased frequency and intensity of floods and droughts, with losses in agriculture and threats to biodiversity; changes in the hydrological regime; the expansion of endemic and non-endemic disease vectors; the mobility of people and goods between countries in the ECOWAS region, countries where epidemics and

recurrent outbreaks occur; as well as economic and social challenges, require the country to have a preparedness and response plan against various risks to mitigate the impact of health events.

Bearing in mind that Resolution No. 8/2019, which establishes the National Coordinating Body for the One Health-Cabo Verde Approach, gives the Platform the mandate to mobilize national resources, share data and information, and organize multisectoral health risk assessment and management, with a view to prevention, surveillance, early warning, preparedness and response, epidemic management, and monitoring the situation after health crises and which needs to have guidance to strengthen the multisectoral and multidisciplinary approach.

It should be noted that a national health emergency response is based on the country's emergency and disaster risk profile and existing capacity building plans, including the National Action Plan for Health Security, which focuses on an all-risks approach.

In this context, the Multisectoral Commission of the National Coordinating Body, within the framework of the “One Health” approach, intends to purchase consultancy services to support the strategic assessment of public health risks and the preparation of the **multi-hazard public health emergency preparedness and response plan**.

General Objective of the Consultancy

The purpose of this Terms of Reference is to engage an individual consultant whose mission will be to assist the National Authority of the One Health Approach in the strategic assessment of public health risks and the preparation of the Multi-Risk Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan.

3. Specific Consulting Objectives

- Support the validation of risks scenarios and provide an international perspective based on global experience and best practices from other countries.
- Provide strategic guidance to ensure that the multi-risk plan is in line with international guidelines, WHO standards and regional directives.
- Helping to integrate international response mechanisms and establish standardized protocols for global collaboration.

4. Scope of work

The individual consultant will be responsible for providing technical and strategic guidance on an international level to ensure that the plan meets global standards.

Global Strategic Analysis:

- Review and contextualize relevant international documents, including WHO guidelines and global best practices in emergency management.

Risk assessment and validation:

- Provide comparative analysis of Cabo Verde's risks with global standards, suggesting adjustments and strategic guidelines.
- Assist with risk ranking using global criteria to assess impact and probability.

Development of the Multi-Risk Plan:

- Assist the national consultant in developing a multi-risk plan in accordance with international standards.
- Facilitate workshops, including simulations and exercises based on global experience.
- Final review and integration of recommendations to ensure that the final plan is compliant.

Training and Simulation

- Training on the content of the plan with the main players involved.
- Conducting a table top simulation exercise to test the plan in emergency scenarios, ensuring the effectiveness of the coordinated response, including multisectorial actors.

5. Products to be delivered

Item	Products	Delivery time	Payment percentage
P1	Detailed work plan, indicative consulting schedule and proposed methodology	5 working days after signing the contract	15%
P2	Facilitating a <i>workshop</i> to collect subsidies of the multi-hazard public health emergency preparedness and response plan	5 working days after P1 validation	15%
P3	Revise the draft multi-hazard emergency preparedness and response plan in consultation with the national team.	9 working days after delivery and validation of the P2	25%
P4	Facilitating a workshop to validate and gather input from stakeholders and conduct a simulation exercise	7 working days after delivery of the P3	20%
P5	Validation of the final version of the multi-hazard public plan with the national team.	4 working days after the P4 has been carried out	25%

6. Consultant profile

The individual consultant to be hired must have specific skills and demonstrated work experience in the areas of this consultation. Specifically, the consultant must have skills and work experience in management/planning/development of multi-risk public health emergency preparedness and response plans. The consultant should also have international experience and good knowledge, experience in the health sector and networking.

The qualifications and skills required are as follows:

Academic qualifications:

- a) Have a degree in health sciences with a Master's degree preferably in public health, epidemiology, emergency management or related fields. A PhD would be an asset.

Experience:

- a) At least 10 (ten) years of professional experience;
- b) At least 5 (five) years of proven experience in planning and preparing strategic documents in the field of emergency management;
- c) Knowledge of and proficiency in WHO risk assessment and emergency management tools;
- d) Proven professional experience in and/or with international and national health organizations (human, animal and environmental) or related institutions.

Skills:

- a) Up-to-date technical skills in relevant fields such as epidemiology, infectious disease control, disaster management, risk communication and information management in public health emergencies are considered an asset;

- b) Good analytical skills to process qualitative and quantitative information, formulate reports and systematize information;
- c) Excellent interpersonal and communication skills;
- d) Leadership and teamwork skills;

Language requirements:

- a) Good written and spoken Portuguese; knowledge of English would be an asset.

7. Management Structure and Work Logistics

The national and international consultants will work under the supervision of the Coordination of the Multisectoral Commission of the One Health Approach and the Special Projects Management Unit (UGPE). Both must work closely together to ensure that the multi-hazard plan is coherent and adapted to local realities, without losing sight of global standards.

8. Service Location

This consultancy will be carried out at the premises of the National Institute of Public Health, with headquarters at Largo do Desastre de Assistência, Chã de Areia, CP 719, Praia, Republic of Cape Verde T: (+ 238) 261 21 67. Alternatively, other locations may be agreed according to the need and convenience of the project.